

Chinese medicine practitioners

A snapshot as at 30 June 2020



At a glance

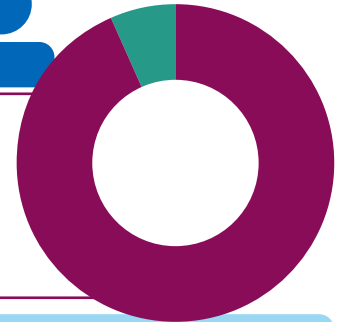


4,921 registered Chinese medicine practitioners in Australia

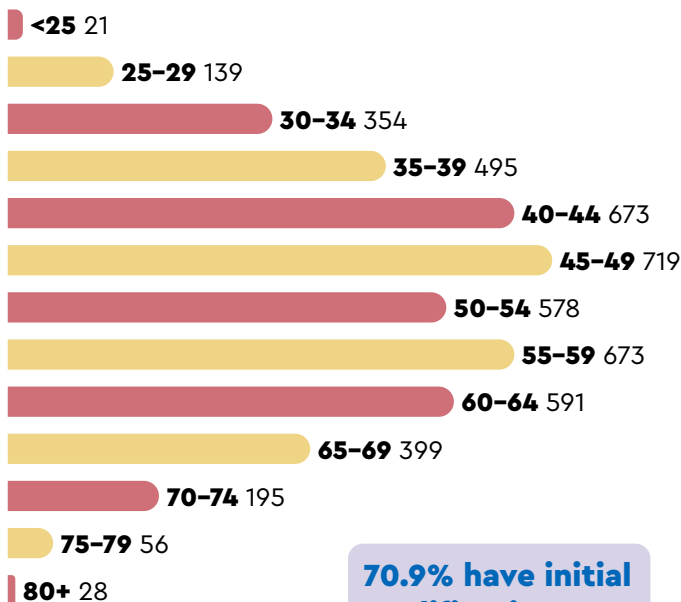
- **0.6%** of the regulated health practitioner workforce
- **18** practitioners per 100,000 head of population¹

• **93.6%** general registration

• **6.4%** non-practising registration



Age breakdown at 2019/2020



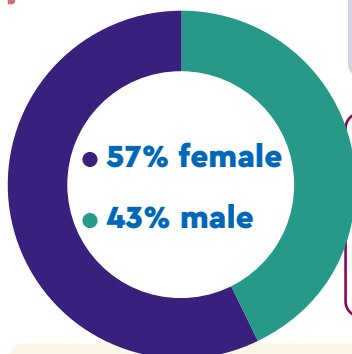
10.4% under the age of 35

50.1% in the age group of 35-54

39.5% aged 55 or over

70.9% have initial qualifications from Australia²

0.4% Chinese medicine practitioners identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander²



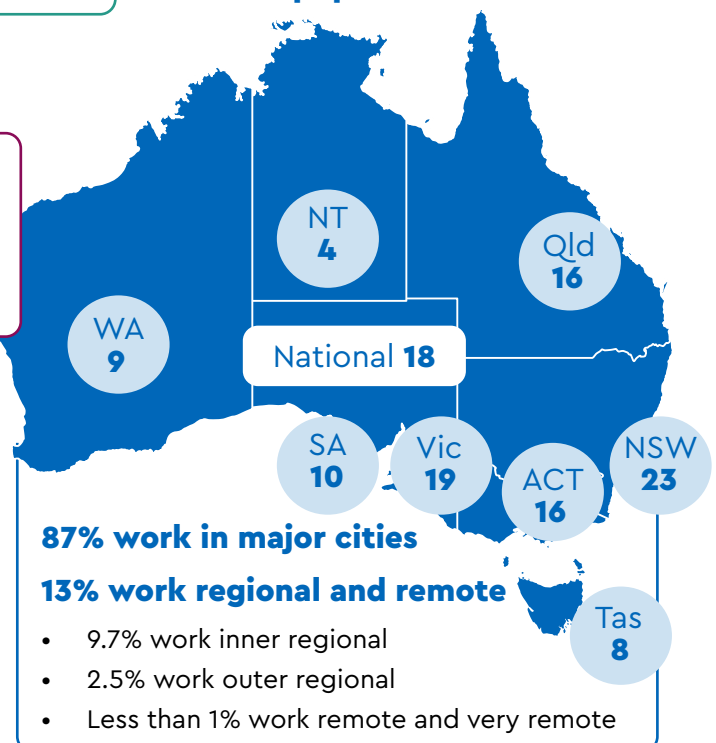
Divisions

- **97.9%** acupuncturist
- **64.0%** Chinese herbal medicine practitioner
- **21.8%** Chinese herbal dispenser

- **37.0%** in one division
- **42.5%** in two divisions
- **20.6%** in three divisions

Average age is **50.5 years**

Rate of Chinese medicine practitioners per 100,000 head of population¹



87% work in major cities

13% work regional and remote

- 9.7% work inner regional
- 2.5% work outer regional
- Less than 1% work remote and very remote

7.2% work 50 hours or more per week

39.2% work 35 or more hours per week

61.4% work less than 35 hours per week

33.5% work less than 20 hours per week

1.2% of employed Chinese medicine practitioners work no clinical hours²

¹Excluding non-practising Chinese medicine practitioners.

²Source: National Health Workforce Data Set (NHWDS).

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Trends: 5 years to 2019/20



3.3% increase in registered practitioners

18.1% increase in student registration

	2015/16	2019/20	Trend
Registered Chinese medicine practitioners	4,762	4,921	↑
Percentage of regulated health practitioner workforce	1.0%	0.6%	↓
Percentage of practitioners in Australia's population	0.02%	0.02%	→
Percentage of Chinese medicine practitioners under the age of 35	13.8%	10.4%	↓
Percentage of Chinese medicine practitioners aged 35 to 54	53.2%	50.1%	↓
Percentage of Chinese medicine practitioners over the age of 55	33.0%	39.5%	↑
Percentage of male Chinese medicine practitioners	45.4%	43.0%	↓
Percentage of female Chinese medicine practitioners	54.6%	57.0%	↑

Changes to Chinese medicine practitioner workforce across states and territories

	2015/16	2019/20	% change
ACT	66	74	12.1% ↑
NSW	1,953	1,989	10.8% ↑
NT	17	13	23.5% ↓
Qld	862	896	3.9% ↑
SA	183	195	6.6% ↑
Tas	33	44	33.3% ↑
Vic	1,289	1,325	2.8% ↑
WA	254	258	1.6% ↑

Changes to registration categories

- General registration decreased from 95.2% to **93.6% of registrants**
- Non-practising registration increased from 4.8% to **6.4% of registrants**

Changes to Chinese medicine practitioner workforce across Australia

	2015/16	2019/20	% change
Major cities	4,107	4,191	2.0% ↑
Inner regional	411	467	13.6% ↑
Outer regional	126	119	5.6% ↓
Remote	7	10	42.9% ↑
Very remote	4	5	25.0% ↑